UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/23302
20 December 1991

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 20 DECEMBER 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MALTA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to attach a statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Malta on the situation in Yugoslavia. I should be grateful if you would circulate this statement as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Victor CAMILLERI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Statement issued on 19 December 1991 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Malta on the situation in Yugoslavia

The Government of Malta has already expressed its concern at the situation in Yugoslavia and has followed closely events whereby certain republics in Yugoslavia have exercised their right to self-determination leading to their sovereignty and independence.

It has also seen the European Community's declaration on Yugoslavia and its guidelines on the recognition of new states in Eastern Europe and in the Soviet Union. The Government of Malta concurs with the common position adopted on the process of recognition of these new states which require:

- respect for the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and the commitments subscribed to in the Final Act of Helsinki and in the Charter of Paris, especially with regard to the rule of law, democracy and human rights;

- guarantees for the rights of ethnic and national groups and minorities in accordance with the commitments subscribed to in the framework of the CSCE;

- respect for the inviolability of all frontiers which can only be changed by peaceful means and by common agreement;

- acceptance of all relevant commitments with regard to disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation as well as to security and regional stability;

- commitment to settle by agreement, including where appropriate by recourse to arbitration, all questions concerning State successions and regional disputes.

The Community's declaration also stated that it will not recognize entities which are the result of aggression.

The commitment on the part of Yugoslav republics to these principles opens the way to recognition by the Government of Malta and the establishment of diplomatic relations.